JOAN GARIPPA

41-31 248TH STREET

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June 1, 1999

Dr. Jane Henney Commissioner U. S. Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane Room 1471 Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Commissioner Henney:

I am writing to request that you take the lead in reducing and/or eliminating the widespread use of antibiotics in the agricultural industry, particularly as it is used in animal feed.

I am allergic to penicillin. Yet with the current feed practices I must be careful about the amount of meat I eat since I am getting doses of penicillin mixed in with the meat I consume. I believe this practice is affecting my overall health.

I believe this practice to be very dangerous to the general population as, in all likelihood, a once very powerful drug will become less useful over time. In addition, we will see the development of more resistant bacteria and be forced to develop even more potent drugs to combat the diseases we will be facing.

How much better and easier to lessen the whole cycle by reducing the use of antibiotics in feed in the first place.

Sincerely,

/bhs

997-0485

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Dr. Jane Henney Commissioner U. S. Food and Drug Adminnistration 5600 Fishers Lane Suite 1471 Rockville, MD 20857

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